

State Library of North Carolina

UPDATE

<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us>

September 2001

North Carolina ECHO

North Carolina ECHO, *Exploring Cultural Heritage Online*, can now claim 742 cultural institutions in its online database. These institutions represent archives, museums, libraries, and historical/genealogical societies from Murphy to Manteo. This Web directory informs researchers about the location, collection strengths, and availability of manuscripts, artifacts, rare books, and other special materials. Whether working on an elementary school project or a dissertation, researchers are able to turn to the ECHO Web site <www.ncecho.org> to help them find a wide range of research materials held by North Carolina institutions.

In addition to its directory function, the North Carolina ECHO Web site has the ability to simultaneously search the now more than 160 digitized collections that have been mounted on the Web by the state's various cultural collecting agencies. For example, a search on the subject "African Americans" leads researchers to Duke's "African-American Women" online collection, as well as the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's "North American Slave Narratives." The same search also retrieves the Greensboro Historical Museum's collection of oral histories gathered by the students of Jonesboro School in 1932 titled, "Slavery as We've Heard It," and the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County's two-volume "African American Album," containing historic photographs of Mecklenburg County.

North Carolina ECHO provides access to more than just manuscripts and rare books. The Catawba County Museum of History and the North Carolina Museum of Art, among others, have mounted digital images of art and artifacts on the Web. East Carolina University's Wellington B. Gray Gallery has created an online database of its Lankton & Western African Art Collection, allowing researchers to search its holdings by African nation, ethnic group, and artifact type. It even makes its artifacts available through a map interface, which is especially helpful for school children.

North Carolina ECHO continues to expand these online resources by offering continuing education and digitization grant opportunities to the state's cultural institutions. North Carolina ECHO will be offering two week-long digitization institutes in the early spring of 2002.

Digitization Grants

Applications for North Carolina ECHO's EZ-LSTA Digitization Demonstration Grants are now

available. Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on October 5, 2001.

This grant program is designed to provide quality online content, which will reflect the rich diversity of cultural resources held by the State's institutions and the people who created them, while encouraging collaborative ventures between libraries and other types of cultural repositories. Through this grant program and using digital technologies, eligible libraries and partner agencies will be able to foster greater access to the special collections



North Carolina ECHO's survey staff, Scott Reavis and Kim Cumber, are ready for the road with the "scan van."

of North Carolina. Grants will fund projects to test models for:

- online content creation,
- preparation of online finding aids,
- effective partnerships for digitization, and
- incorporation of Web cataloging or metadata into digitization projects.

The grant application package is available on the state library's web site at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm>>.

For more information about North Carolina ECHO, please contact Kevin Cherry, Consultant for Special Collections, at <kcherry@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA)

Evaluation Report Nears Completion

During the first half of 2001, the State Library worked with consultant Douglas Zweizig, Professor Emeritus in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, to prepare a report on North Carolina's implementation of its initial multi-year LSTA Plan. The evaluation process included preparation of reports by State Library staff on all the objectives in the Plan, input from 118 members of the library community at five regional meetings in April, and a closer look at two areas of emphasis: public and academic libraries' provision of Internet access to users, and services to children and young adults in public and school libraries. Participants at the regional meetings also helped identify priorities and some future needs that might be met with LSTA funds.

LSTA Advisory Committee Begins Plan Revision

The LSTA Advisory Committee and the State Library Commission reviewed drafts of the Evaluation Report at a two-day August planning retreat. The LSTA Advisory Committee, State Library senior management, and Zweizig, along with co-consultant Coral Swanson, met to discuss and comment on the Report. The final document should be ready for submission in September to the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the federal administering agency.

The August retreat also was an opportunity to begin incorporating the findings of the Evaluation into a new Plan for use of LSTA funds for the next several years. During the two-day session the committee worked on revisions in the guiding principles and revised goals. The group also began discussion of policy issues. Although the work is not complete, here is an overview of project revisions and some decisions to be made:

- The guiding principles will remain much the same with stronger emphasis on collaboration and on promoting the value of libraries and improving accountability.
- The goals will continue to emphasize the use of technology to improve access to information, strengthening youth services, and the State Library's role.
- A new emphasis will be placed on outreach programs in all types of libraries.
- The committee is still examining options for multi-year projects and giving libraries a full 12 months to implement projects; however, any changes must be made within the context of state and federal legislation and rules.

The group also made the following preliminary decisions about the 2001-2002 grant programs, which may not fully reflect the revised plan:

- There will be no grants for automated systems next year, and the State Library will survey all types of libraries to determine the current levels of automation. Once that information is available, the committee will make its recommendations on future directions for that grant program.
- All other grant programs will remain substantially the same, and digitization grants as well as Hispanic services grants will be available as part of the regular grant calendar.
- Public relations grants are also on the drawing board.

Changes on LSTA Advisory Committee

At the Planning Retreat, three members of the original LSTA Advisory Committee concluded four years of involvement with the project: Jordan Scepaniski, who also served ably as chair (Executive Director, Triangle Research Libraries Network); Beverley Gass (Dean of Learning Resources, Guilford Technical Community College); and Beth Mueller (retired director, Appalachian Regional Library). The hard-working members were recognized with certificates, small gifts, and many, many thanks.

New members welcomed to the committee include Margaret Blanchard (Director, Central North Carolina Regional Library); Jim Kuhlman (University Librarian, University of North Carolina at Asheville); and Dan Swartout (Director of Libraries, Edgecombe Community College).

For more information on the LSTA program in North Carolina, please contact Library Consultant Penny Hornsby at <phornsby@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

Public Librarian Certification Commission

Governor Mike Easley has made new appointments to the North Carolina Public Librarian Certification Commission. Cora C. (Corki) Miller, Director of the Hickory Public Library System, has been appointed as the new chairperson. Sherwin Rice, Director of the Bladen County Public Library, has been re-appointed by the Governor upon the nomination of the North Carolina Library Association. Dr. Diane Kester, Chair of the Department of Librarianship, Educational Technology, and Distance Instruction at East Carolina University, has been appointed to represent the North Carolina library schools. The new appointees will serve until June 30, 2005.

For more information, contact Anne Marie Elkins at <aelkins@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

New Automated System

With the help of Renne Vance, the Department's budget officer, the State Library has been able to pull together enough money to replace its aging Dynix system. In addition, the State Library is working with the State Archives to see if we can purchase a shared system that will provide online access to the Archives catalog as well as to the growing number of digital materials they are producing.

The RFP is slated for release in the next few days. Endeavor, Sirsi, epixtech, and Innovative Interfaces have presented all-day demonstrations on their systems for staff of both divisions. VTLS has also demonstrated digital imaging services.

We believe the new system will provide some exciting opportunities for increasing access to digital images, including the future addition of state documents in digital format.

Government Documents Branch

Jan Reagan joined the State Library on August 1 as *Head, Documents Branch*. She comes to the State Library from Progress Energy (formerly CP&L) where she was Business Research Librarian for three years. Prior to that, she was Director of Information Dissemination at the Center for Universal Design, a national research and information center affiliated with the College of Design at NC State University. She worked as a business and law librarian at the Federal Reserve Board and the Marriott Corporation in Washington, DC. A native of Raleigh, Jan earned a BA in History from Wake Forest University in 1977 and an MLS from the University of Maryland in 1978. Her varied work environments have afforded her experience in all aspects of library operation. Welcome, Jan!

For more information about the Documents Branch, contact Jan Reagan <jreagan@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

Libraries: *the very best place to start!*

Another exciting year of *the very best place to start* campaign is unfolding, and the goal remains the same: to get out the message that your library is the best first stop for expert help in connecting children and teens with learning and discovery. Here are highlights of the months ahead:

Kids' Web portal.

Children's librarians have been busy developing *the very best place to start* on the Web: a portal site with dozens of links to cool, kid-friendly sites that are librarian-approved.

Local media events. To keep the momentum going throughout the year, we will hold six events at local libraries across the state.

School library print collections. A study will be commissioned to investigate how school library media center print collections support student achievement.

Newspaper column. A weekly column called "Ask a Librarian" will position professional librarians as providers of expert help.

Ambassador Corps. This campaign advisory group will act as a link between local libraries and the State Library team to ensure that the campaign is meeting local needs.

Marketing tools. One of the first tasks of the Ambassadors will be offering input on the marketing tools that libraries need. The objective: customizable, flexible campaign materials to help libraries tie in *the very best place to start* message with existing programs.

Special request workshops. Topics include media training, presentations, newsletters or marketing, tailored to your group's needs. These half-day sessions may also work as part of other meetings. Twelve workshops will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so look for the announcement.

PR workshop. A one-day program will cover the basics of PR and marketing for libraries, including research, planning, communication and evaluation. Participants will be eligible for grants in 2002-2003 to launch or expand their library's communications efforts.

Starting Point. The newsletter is back, sharing ways NC libraries demonstrate they are *the very best place to start!*

For more information, contact Timothy Owens at <towens@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.





NC LIVE

The NC LIVE staff now includes Ralph Kaplan and Sarah Conrad Weisman as Systems Librarians, Peter MacLaren as Applications Manager, and Omead Ahdieh as Systems Administrator.

As NC LIVE Systems Librarians, Ralph Kaplan and Sarah Conrad Weisman will be the faces behind the NC LIVE Help Desk. They will serve as liaisons between the librarians and staff of affiliated libraries and the NC LIVE technical staff to communicate needs, solve problems, and explore and develop service enhancements.

The NC LIVE help desk is now located in D.H. Hill Library on the campus of North Carolina State University. For assistance, they may be contacted by e-mail at <help@nclive.org> or by phone at (919) 513-0451.

The Training Advisory Committee (TRAC) is pleased to announce the Fall 2001 training schedule. Three sessions of the subject-focused workshop, NC LIVE Business Resources, will be offered, as well as seven NC LIVE Basics sessions. Four special half-day sessions on netLibrary will be presented at the NCLA Conference.

The NC LIVE training schedule and workshop registration forms are available at <<http://www.nclive.org/libnsrc.shtml#training>>. To register for the netLibrary training, visit the NCLA Conference Registration site at <<http://www.nclaonline.org/conference/regist.html>>.

For more information about the State Library's continuing education program, please contact Jeanne Crisp, Chief of Library Development, at <jcrisp@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

NC LIVE & Public Schools

Special provisions in the House and Senate budgets mandate collaboration between NC LIVE and the Department of Public Instruction. Although the two provisions differ substantially, both focus on trying to combine the resources of NC LIVE and NC WISE OWL, DPI's web site with licensed resources. The House version, which appears to be the one that will be in the final appropriations bill, requires reporting back to the General Assembly with recommendations.

The Librarians Working Group (LWG) will begin meeting with DPI representatives on September 5 to develop plans in response to the mandates. Please stay tuned for more information, because NC LIVE and its services may require some advocacy with the legislature next spring.

Summer Reading/Quiz Bowl

Summer Reading 2001 has been completed. That can only mean that it's time to begin thinking about Summer Reading—again.

The theme for the 2002 Summer Reading program will be "Exercise Your Mind. . . Read!" and the members of the Summer Reading Committee have been giving their minds and their creativity a real workout. They have been busy designing suggested activities and programs for the program manual, which will be distributed to libraries across the state. They have also been developing the workshops, which will be held on November 26 in Hickory and November 27 in Raleigh. Meanwhile, Youth Services Consultant Jim Rosinia has been busy taking the artwork created by award-winning illustrator and Wilmington resident Virginia Wright Frierson and preparing it for the posters, bookmarks, stickers, and other program materials.

The members of the 2001-2002 Quiz Bowl Committee have also been busy exercising their intellects as they develop questions for the upcoming competitions and the annual workshops which will be held on October 16 in Hickory and October 17 in Kinston.

For more information about Youth Services, please contact Jim Rosinia <jrosinia@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

Genealogical Services

Among the 5720 visitors to Genealogical Services from March through August 15 was a gentleman all the way from Johnston Atoll, 717 nautical miles southwest of Honolulu (Yes, the atoll has a Website). Pam Toms also reports that she was recently asked a reference question that "I don't think that anyone else has ever asked me before." That question? "Is the Krispy Kreme light on?"

Was it the man from the Johnston Atoll asking, Pam?

For more information about Genealogical Services, contact Pam Toms <ptoms@library.dcr.state.nc.us>

Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped—Record Circulation!

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) achieved an all-time circulation record this State Fiscal Year, for the first time breaking the half-million mark to reach 521,895 books or magazines loaned. In addition, the LBPH served an all-time record number of individuals, with 10,188 individual library users actively borrowing materials during the 2000/2001 SFY.

For more information about the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, please contact Francine Martin at <fmartin@library.dcr.state.nc.us>



North Carolina Center for the Book

<<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ld/nccftb/cftb.htm>>



Celebrate!

The North Carolina Center for the Book is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2002!! Join us for the kickoff at the NCLA Biennial Conference, Friday, October 5th, 2:00-3:30 p.m. We'll have a dessert reception with North Carolina's Poet Laureate Fred Chappell as our special guest. Also available at the reception will be a poem written especially for the occasion by Mr. Chappell. It will be in a limited edition, so join us for sweets and pick up your poem!

The North Carolina Center for the Book's statewide public programming in 2002 will focus on North Carolina poets and their art—*NC Reads NC*. The Center will coordinate scholar-led reading and discussion programs in public libraries, poetry readings, and everything else poetic it can conjure up.

Let's talk about . . .

- *One Vision, Many Voices: Latino Literature in the U. S.* in Waynesville at the Haywood County Public Library and in Durham at the Durham County Public Library.
- *Mad Women in the Attic* in West Jefferson at the Ashe County Library.
- *20th Century African-American Literature* in Spruce Pine at the Spruce Pine Public Library.
- *Destruction or Redemption: Images of Romantic Love* in Beaufort at the Carteret County Public Library.
- *Faith Differences, Different Faiths: Exploring Religion in Modern American Fiction* at the North Regional Library (Wake County Public Libraries) in Raleigh and the Wilson County Library in Wilson.
- *The Journey Inward: Women's Autobiography* in Hickory at the Patrick Beaver Memorial Library.
- *Tar Heel Fiction: A Second Look* at the Shepard-Pruden Library in Edenton and in Apex at the Eva Perry Regional Library (Wake County Public Libraries). The Robeson County Library in Lumberton hosted this series in the spring and participants wrote in their evaluations:

"This program is GREAT! We get to read good books, see folks from all around the area who also like to read, and hopefully we expand our minds. Having interesting facilitators is a bonus!"

"I began the series out of curiosity and because I love to read. I have enjoyed each speaker because they have given insights into the novel that I only saw after they spoke about them. I hope the series will continue."

Where were you in World War II?

Award-winning documentary films are viewed at these discussion programs and participants read Studs Terkel's *The Good War: An Oral History of World War II*. The Onslow County Public Library in Jacksonville is hosting *From Rosie to Roosevelt: The American People* (the homefront: women in the workforce, the Japanese internment, and more). The Macon County Public Library (Fontana Regional Library System) in Franklin hosted the series this summer, and local coordinator Dottie Brunette says, "Rosie was a huge hit! We had over 40 people sign up. We had a wonderful exhibit from one of the churches in the county including memorabilia, photographs of local people in their uniforms, medals, ration books, and other neat stuff. The age range was from 30-something to WWII veterans, but the most interesting attendees were visitors who read the blurb in the weekly paper and chose to attend as part of their vacation!"

Mother Goose Asks "Why?"

Outstanding picture books and easy activities help parents introduce their three-to-seven-year old children to the world of science. Public libraries and their partners (including MotheRead, Smart Start, Parents as Teachers, and Head Start) are hosting programs this fall in Wilmington, Boone, North Wilkesboro, Sparta, and Sugar Grove. Coming soon —*You Can Count on Mother Goose* . . . stay tuned!

Stay in touch . . . <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ld/nccftb/cftb.htm>>. For information contact Frannie Ashburn, Director, North Carolina Center for the Book at <fashburn@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

North Carolina and Poetry

In his essay "The State of Poetry," North Carolina's Poet Laureate Fred Chappell writes:

Louisiana State University Press publishes my poetry, and poetry volumes make up a large part of its output. The director of LSU Press informs me that North Carolina buys more poetry than any other Southern state, more in fact, than any state except those with the largest metropolises, California, New York and Massachusetts. (In the past 12 months NC bought twice as much as any other southern state!)





Remembering Elaine

Elaine Christian, Consultant for Continuing Education (CE) at the State Library, passed away on July 19, 2001. The following is an edited version of Frannie Ashburn's remarks made at Elaine's funeral.

For almost 10 years, Elaine was one of the nine Library Development Consultants at the State Library of North Carolina. I, too, am one of those nine librarians and I speak to you today for myself and for the other Library Development consultants. We are in many ways more like a family than a work team. Elaine was our sister.

We want you, her family and friends, to know what a daily pleasure it was to work with Elaine—sharing ideas and plans, attending meetings and reviewing grants, and enjoying the camaraderie of a closely-knit work group. All of us spent time working together in the office and time together traveling around the state. And it was always such fun to do these things with Elaine. She was conscientious, dependable, responsive, and professional in all that she did and with everyone with whom she worked.

And we want you to know that the work she did as the Consultant for Continuing Education is very likely to touch your daily life, in ways you may not think about. The Continuing Education programs that she helped to plan and coordinate provide training for librarians and library staff from Murphy to Manteo, all over the state of North Carolina. And this in turn means that it will be easier for you to find a good book to read, for your child to get homework help, for your college student to find exactly the right resource.

Elaine was the heart of our award-winning Master Trainer program. The public and academic librarians who have become the Master Trainers over the years remained in close contact with Elaine. The Master Trainer program was a project that she enjoyed so much. She loved the people who were involved and she was justifiably proud of the work they accomplished. In a way, she was the trainer who trained the trainers, a fine example of the combination of education and service that was her work life.

She also thoroughly enjoyed all of the fun that the Master Trainers had. And she was the behind-the-scenes ring-leader for so much of the fun that provided a balance for the group's focused intensity. This fun began with their

adopting the cow as their mascot. Her office was filled with cow masks and cow mugs and cow slippers and cow-everything-you-can-think-of. All of this was visible evidence of the affection that her co-workers and everyone else had for her. We all brought her funny things to make her laugh—and we all laughed together so many times.

In addition to her CE projects, Elaine had general consulting duties, so she's known and respected by library directors and staff and trustees all over the state. They too are the grateful beneficiaries of her good work.

Elaine carried her work overseas to South Africa in the summer of 2000 when she was selected to spend several weeks as a volunteer with the World Library Partnership to help librarians in small villages. This was a life-altering experience and fulfilled a long-time dream of hers.

I speak from my perspective as one of the Library Development consultants, but there are many other State Library staff members who also worked closely with Elaine. And they too have happy memories of work and lives shared, and they are so very sad that she is no longer part of our daily life.

So all of us who have spent so much time with her through the years now celebrate her life and tell you how grateful we are to have known her. And we honor her good work and we all are glad to have a part in continuing that work—and it will continue. And it will always have a special something that began with Elaine.

Every single day we will miss her beautiful smile, her gentle spirit, and the genuine pleasure of working with her. The time of her life was far too brief. But it was a life well-lived, so she lives on in our hearts as we know she does in yours. God bless Elaine.

State Library Staff Update

- We have been given preliminary approval to promote Grant Pair to Assistant State Librarian for Information Technology.
- Paperwork has been sent to our personnel department to promote Scott Reavis to the position of IT Manager. Scott is currently an NC ECHO staff member.
- Recruitment for the Continuing Education Consultant and the Interlibrary Cooperation Consultant positions is slated to begin soon.